## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 EB-08 /065 W

-----030493 081119Z/13

O P 081040Z AUG 77 FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8256 INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR AMEMBASSY BANGKOK AMEMBASSY MANILA

CONFIDENTIAL SINGAPORE 3364

E.O. 11652: GDS TAGS: ASEAN, SN SUBJECT: CORRECTING THE RECORD ON PRIME MINISTER LEE'S ASEAN ADDRESS

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 5122

1. EMBASSY NOTED THAT SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER LEE KUAN YEW, IN HIS AUGUST 4 OPENING ADDRESS TO ASEAN SUMMIT, DESCRIBED CERTAIN ASPECTS OF U.S. POLICY INACCURATELY. WHILE PRIME MINISTER'S PURPOSE IN DOING SO WAS APPARENTLY TO ENCHANCE DRAMATIC EFFECT OF HIS SPEECH, WE FELT THAT A LOW-KEYED CORRECTION WAS IN ORDER.

2. PAO, ACCORDINGLY, IS SENDING PERSONAL LETTER TO PRIME MINISTER'S PRESS SECRETARY, JAMES FU, MAKING FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. PRIME MINISTER'S ASSERTION THAT "ALL U.S. FORCES IN KOREA" WOULD BE WITHDRAWN IS INCORRECT. LETTER FURNISHED QUOTES FROM PRESIDENT CARTER AND SECDEF MAKING CLEAR THAT AIR FORCE UNITS, INTELLIGENCE AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT PERSONNEL WOULD REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL

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IN KOREA AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF GROUND COMBAT FORCES.

B. PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT THAT IN VIEWING SOUTHEAST ASIA "AMERICANS SEE THINGS IN TERMS OF THEIR ECONOMIC INTERESTS" AND THAT OUTSIDE OF JAPAN "SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS OF THE LAST TWO DECADES ARE NO LONGER RELEVANT" IS ALSO MISINTERPRETATION OF U.S. POLICY. LETTER CITES SECRETARY VANCE'S JUNE 29 SPEECH

TO POINT OUT THAT THE U.S. INTENDS TO CONTINUE ITS KEY ROLE IN CONTRIBUTING TO PEACE AND STABILITY, HAS A STRONG INTEREST IN HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE REGION, AND RECOGNIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTINUING TO CONTRIBUTE TO ASIAN SECURITY. HOLDRIDGE

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## Message Attributes

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Subject: CORRECTING THE RECORD ON PRIME MINISTER LEE'S ASEAN ADDRESS

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